

Cont'd

28. A plastic mass of polyvinylchloride stabilized by the method of claims 14 or 26.

REMARKS

An Abstract of the Disclosure has been provided.

All of the original claims have been cancelled and a new set of claims has been presented. The statutory class in which the new claims fall is self-evident, the resin in the broader claims is recited as a halogen containing resin, the ester has been specified as a carboxylic acid ester and the references to metal compounds, tin compounds and antimony compounds make it clear that such materials are the known stabilizers. Subranges are now recited in separate claims.

The rejections based on the Stoffelsma and Kugele patents are moot in light of the foregoing amendments.

The claims were rejected under 35 USC 102 over Gough. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Gough relates to the same subject matter as the present invention, i.e., the stabilization of a halogenated containing resin. The reference discloses that it is known in the art to use organic thiols, hindered phenols, tin carboxylates, organotin carboxylates, and organotin mercaptides as stabilizers for such resins. The reference further indicates that it was previously known that the combination of an organic thioanhydride and a mono-hydroxycarbonyl tin compound could be used. The patentees teach a synergistic

stabilizer composition which contains an organo-tin borate and an organic thiol. The claimed invention, on the other hand, relates to the combination of a known conventional stabilizing agent with a carboxylic acid ester containing a mercaptan function in the alcohol residue thereof.

Thus, while the reference relates to combining an organo-tin borate with a thiol, the applicants invention does not relate to the combination of a thiol with a borate.

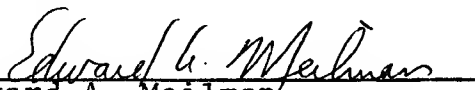
Beyond the fact that the present invention does not relate to the use of borates, it is respectfully pointed out that applicants' esters can be added to non-tin stabilizers, such as those of antimony, zinc and calcium (see Examples 12-21, pages 16-18) and obtain very significant stabilization. A further unexpected result lies in the improvement of the viscosity during working due to the addition of the mercaptoalkyl esters as demonstrated in the working examples.

It is recognized that Gough does teach esters falling within applicants formula under those limited circumstances where j is 0 and h is 1 in Formula (g). However, an extremely large number of thiols are disclosed by the reference and there is no teaching or suggestion that would lead those skilled in the art to applicants' compounds or suggest to those skilled in the art that applicants' compounds could be used with conventional stabilizers to improve the activity thereof and to improve the viscosity of the resin when worked.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the claims, as amended, are neither anticipated nor obvious over the reference.

In view of all of the foregoing, it is believed that this application is now in condition to be allowed and the early issuance of a Notice of Allowance is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

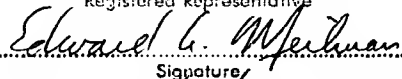

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Name of applicant, assignee, or
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